

REMARKS

After entry of this Amendment and claim election, claims 2-4, 6, 8, 12-17, 31-34, and 36-38 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-4, 6, 12-17, and 32-34 are herein amended and claims 1, 5, 7, 9-11, 28, and 29 are herein cancelled. Claims 36-38 are added. Claims 18-27, 30, and 35 are withdrawn pursuant to the Applicant's claim election described in greater detail below.

Election of Claims:

The application currently stands restricted to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- Group I: Claims 1-13 and 31-34; drawn to a solar cell module.
- Group II: Claims 14-17; drawn to a solar cell module.
- Group III: Claims 18-27, 30, and 35; drawn to a continuous solar cell encapsulation process.
- Group IV: Claims 28-29; drawn to the use of a liquid silicone encapsulant composition in a solar cell module.

The Applicant elects Group I, Claims 1-13 and 31-34. Pursuant to this election, the Applicant has amended claims 14-17 to be consistent with the claims of Group I. The Applicant has added claims 36-38 which are also drawn toward a solar cell module. The Applicant has also cancelled claims 1, 5, 7, and 9-11. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that Group I now includes the pending claims 2-4, 6, 8, 12-17, 31-34, and 36-38 and respectfully requests that these claims be examined.

The Applicant has withdrawn claims 18-27, 30, and 35 of Group III and has cancelled claims 28 and 29 of Group IV. The Applicant reserves the right to rejoin claims 18-27, 30, and 35 of Group III upon allowance of one or more of the elected claims.

Newly Added Claims:

As set forth above, claims 36-38 are added in this Amendment. Claim 36 is an independent claim and defines one embodiment of this invention. Claims 37 and 38 are dependent claims and are added to further define the invention claimed in claim 36.

Support for claims 36 and 37 is found at least in paragraphs [0015], [0020], [0021], [0027], [0046], and [0047] of the specification as originally filed and in original claim 10.¹ Claim 38 is similar to already pending claim 16 and thus finds support in this claim as set forth in the specification as originally filed. Accordingly, no new matter is introduced in the instant Amendment.

Amended Claims:

Claims 2-4, 6, 12 and 13 are amended simply to be consistent with newly added claims 36 and 37.

Claim 14 is amended to further define the amount of the resin fraction (i.e., the amount of the silicone resin (B/Bi)) in the liquid silicone encapsulant composition and the silicone adhesive composition, respectively. Support for this amendment is found at least in paragraphs [0038] and [0048] of the specification as originally filed.²

Claims 15-17 and 32-34 are amended simply to be consistent with amended or newly added claims from which these claims depend.

The support for each of the amendments to the claims is described in detail above. Accordingly, no new matter is introduced in the instant Amendment.

¹ See also paragraphs [0017], [0024]-[0028], [0034], and [0058]-[0062] of US 2006/0207646 A1.

² See also paragraphs [0049] and [0063] of US 2006/0207646 A1.

While it is believed that no further fees are presently due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 08-2789, in the name of Howard & Howard Attorneys PLLC for any fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS PLLC

January 19, 2010
Date

David M. LaPrairie/
David M. LaPrairie, Registration No. 46,295
Howard and Howard Attorneys PLLC
450 West Fourth Street
Royal Oak, Michigan 48067
(248) 723-0442